

Claims

1 1. A method for use in a network that carries packet traffic under at least two
2 classes of service, the method comprising determining individually for each of a plurality
3 of links in the network whether a predetermined parameter associated with said each link
4 meets a predetermined criterion, said parameter being a function of the amount of packet
5 traffic over said each link that is entitled to one of the classes of service and being further
6 a function of the amount of packet traffic over said each link that is entitled to the other
7 of the classes of service.

1 2. The method according to claim 1 further comprising setting a warning
2 flag for each said link for which said criterion is met.

1 3. The method according to claim 1 further comprising providing dynamic
2 subscriptions by using RSVP for aggregate packet traffic flows along any of the links.

1 4. The method according to claim 1 wherein said parameter is the ratio of
2 a) the amount of packet traffic over said each link that is entitled said one of the classes
3 of service to b) the amount of packet traffic over said each link that is entitled to the other
4 of the classes of service and wherein said criterion is that said ratio exceeds a
5 predetermined threshold.

1 5. The method according to claim 1 further comprising allowing the
2 customer to request and modify the access rate for at least one of the classes of service.

1 6. The method according to claim 1 wherein one of the classes of service is
2 a best-effort service and the other is a better-than-best-effort service.